

Banquet Gala and Puerto Rican Ilustres. Please join me in welcoming the representatives of Barceloneta to the State of New Jersey.

Founded in 1881, Barceloneta is named for its founder Bonocio Llenza Feliu's hometown of Barcelona, Spain. Due to the vast pineapple plantations across much of the town, it acquired the nickname of La Ciudad de las Piñas, or pineapple city. Barceloneta is located at the northern end of Puerto Rico, along the Atlantic Ocean and is traversed by the Grande de Manatí River.

Today, Barceloneta is known as the Industrial City as it once served as the largest pharmaceutical complex in the world with 14 industries present. It is an ideal location for the facilities because it has underground water reservoirs and the purity of Barceloneta's water requires little treatment to produce their products. Many manufacturers remain today, including Merck Sharp and Dohme; Pfizer; and Abbott Laboratories. Barceloneta is a unique commercial area with the first and one of the largest outlet malls in Puerto Rico, which also serves as a travel destination. Its tourism is also bolstered by its famous black sand beaches, most popular among them Playa La Palmita, Playa Puerto de las Vacas and Playa Las Criollas.

Many notable individuals hail from Barceloneta, including Sixto Escobar, Puerto Rico's first boxing world champion. The Honorable Wanda J. Rosario Soler was elected as Barceloneta's first female mayor in 2012. Mayor Rosario Soler is focused on economic development and tourism to ensure the continued success of Barceloneta.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating Barceloneta, Puerto Rico and thanking the Puerto Rican Heritage Statewide Parade of New Jersey for honoring the town at its 51st Annual Banquet Gala and Puerto Rican Ilustres.

A TRIBUTE TO STOCK CAR RACING LEGEND DUMONT SMITH

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to stock car racing legend Dumont Smith of Satellite Beach, Florida who passed away on Labor Day at the age of 81.

A hard-working building contractor by trade, Dumont Smith was born near Union Cross, North Carolina, and at an early age developed a love for racing. In 1946, at just 15 years old, Dumont began his stock car racing career on the dirt oval speedways in North Carolina. He won the first race he ever entered, after starting 44th in the field with a car he built in his back yard with his cousin Jimmy Caudle. Then, after hanging around and watching High Point, North Carolina driver Fred Harb work on his car at a nearby shop, Dumont refined his car-building skills.

A big part of Dumont Smith's early racing was done at Bowman Gray Stadium in Winston-Salem, NC, where he was racing fairly regularly by 1948. That year was also NASCAR's very first year of operation, and Dumont was one of its pioneer members. In fact, when Dumont surrendered his NASCAR

license after coming to Florida to race on the independent tracks, it was Richard Petty who took over Dumont's registered car number 43.

Dumont's racing career in Florida saw many titles and track championships as he raced for various car owners and excited fans across the state. He won the Florida State Late Model Governor's Cup in 1967 at the Golden Gate Speedway in Tampa, the Late Model Championship in 1968 and 1969 at the Palm Beach Fairgrounds Speedway in West Palm Beach and the 1969 Late Model Championships at New Smyrna Speedway in New Smyrna Beach and Treasure Coast Raceway in Fort Pierce.

At the Eau Gallie Speedway in Melbourne, a local track I once owned and raced on many times, Dumont won a staggering 6 late model championships in 1962, 1963, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1969. He was also the Platinum Coast 100 annual event winner for five years and held the track record in 1967. In all, his racing career in Florida lasted through 1976.

As a building contractor, Dumont along with his brothers, Percy and Jack, plus his cousins Percy Hedgecock and Jimmy Caudle, founded Satellite Beach by developing most of the initial housing neighborhoods. Dumont actually built his first house in North Carolina in 1948 at the age of 17. Just the year before, he had met his wife-to-be, Sarah. They were married in 1949, and December of 2012 would have been their 63rd anniversary. Dumont is survived by his wife Sarah, his son Lance, his daughter Linda and three grandchildren Brandon, Amber and Grant.

My favorite Dumont Smith story is from the 1966 Governor's Cup, the year before he won. Dumont was running second to Bobby Brack with just a few laps to go. Instead of driving through Bobby, running him off the track, Dumont made a bold choice—risk second place and try to pass on the outside around the turn. But the track was very slick from all the grease and leaky oil, and Dumont lost the number two position to ultimately finish fourth.

One of the spectators next to me commented that it wasn't a smart move; that Dumont gave up a sure second place. I simply replied that Dumont didn't race to finish second, he came to win. And Dumont was an honorable racer. He raced to win straight-up, no dirty tricks or rough driving. That's just one of the many qualities I liked so much about Dumont and why he had so many fans.

HONORING BISHOP EDDIE L. LONG

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Bishop Eddie L. Long, is celebrating twenty-five (25) years as pastor of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church this year and providing leadership to his church on an international level; and

Whereas, Bishop Eddie L. Long, under the guidance and calling of God began preaching the word of God to members of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church as pastor in 1987 and today is celebrating a milestone; and

Whereas, from North Carolina to Atlanta, Georgia, he has transformed, trail blazed and

taught the gospel; fed the hungry and assisted those in the community in need; and

Whereas, this man of God has been a blessing to us as a spiritual leader, an educator and a community leader; and

Whereas, Bishop Long has given of himself these past twenty five years to build up the community and has spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to recognize Bishop Eddie L. Long, as he celebrates his 25th Pastoral Anniversary;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 19, 2012 as Bishop Eddie L. Long Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 19th day of August, 2012.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 65TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the United States Air Force for 65 years of innovative progress and strong, steadfast defense of our nation. Over the last 65 years, the brave men and women who have served in the Air Force have made significant contributions in defending our homeland and safeguarding our liberties.

A celebration commemorating the 65th Birthday of the Air Force will be held at the Museum of Aviation at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia on Saturday, September 15, 2012, at 6 p.m. Lieutenant General Andrew Busch, Vice Commander of the Air Force Materiel Command will be the guest speaker for the evening.

The United States Air Force was officially founded on September 18, 1947. However, its history and legacy go back even further. Less than four years after the Wright brothers flew the world's first airplane, the U.S. Army Signal Corps formed an Aeronautical Division in 1907. Known by several different titles and serving a number of purposes, the precursors of the Air Force were instrumental in World War I and especially World War II. Today, the United States Air Force, with its cutting-edge technology and distinguished manpower, is a superior and well-respected authority of air and space.

Shortly before the establishment of the Air Force, on September 1, 1941, construction began on the new Georgia Air Depot located sixteen miles south of Macon, Georgia. At the time of its dedication in 1943, the Depot Commander, Col. Charles E. Thomas, renamed it the Warner Robins Army Air Depot in honor of his mentor and the "father of logistics" of the Air Force, Brig. Gen. Augustine Warner Robins. Now known as Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and Robins Air Force Base, this former dairy farm pastureland would become the largest industrial installation in Georgia and one of the nation's finest defense assets.

Robins Air Force Base employs a workforce of over 25,584 civilians, contractors and members of the military. It is a vital part of the economy in Middle Georgia and brings in billions of dollars each year to the surrounding